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Marinas Make Waves

So far, 51 marinas have been admitted into the Clean Texas Program; another 37 are vying to meet the program's environmental standards.

Fifty-one marinas are flying the banner of the Clean Texas Marina Program in recognition of the high standards they meet in pollution control. The facilities have made the protection of Texas waterways part of their daily business practices.

Another 37 marinas are working to become certified as Clean Texas members. It's all part of a voluntary program co-sponsored by the Texas Sea Grant Program, the TCEQ, and several other partners.

The certified facilities represent both private and public marinas located on lakes, bays, and the coast. All were audited in the following categories:

- vessel maintenance and repair
- petroleum storage and transfer
- sewage disposal
- solid, liquid, and hazardous waste management
- storm water runoff
- facilities management

"The marinas in the Clean Texas program support pollution prevention by making boatyards, boaters, and other marinas more aware of environmental laws and rules," said Dewayne Hollin of the Sea Grant program at Texas A&M University. "They create a strong environmental ethic and promote individual responsibility in recreational boating."

Among the practices the marinas follow are keeping detergents and hazardous chemicals out of the water, controlling erosion, and training employees to watch for inappropriate discharges. Spill control and countermeasures are important, too.

Marina owners find that there are advantages to belonging to Clean Texas, said Hollin. "Many boat owners want to keep their boats in a clean facility. Also, slip customers pay closer attention to the cleanliness of their own areas."

For more information, visit the [Clean Texas Marina Program](#). [Exit...](#)

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